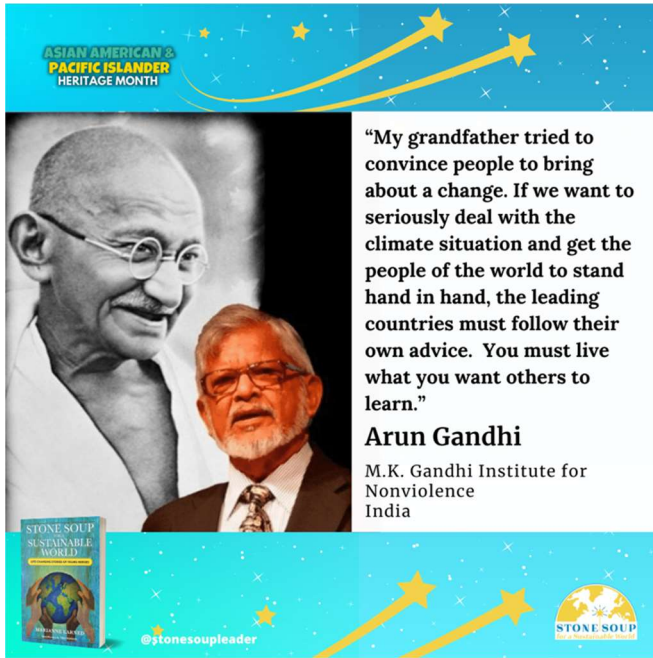




Stone Soup Leadership Institute's  
Story of the Week: Asian Pacific Heritage Month  
Week of May 26 – June 1, 2024



Sunday May 26: Quote: Arun Gandhi

As a self-described “peace farmer,” Arun Gandhi carried on his grandfather’s legacy and shared his wisdom of creating peace in our lives, our communities and the world. countless numbers of people over the years how to honor his grandfather through his lectures, reporting, and his work at the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence.

Last year when Arun passed, we honored him with this **Tribute to Arun Gandhi**

<https://stonesoupleadership.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/tribute-arun-gandhi.pdf>

**Video:** Arun Gandhi’s Blessing to Young People

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhjTdx2btng>

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/story-arun-gandhi.pdf>



Monday: May 27: Quote: Mitzi 2<sup>nd</sup> Post

Mitzi Jonelle Tan is a climate activist and an inspiring international spokesperson for Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines. She is passionate about Climate Justice for Most Affected Peoples and Areas (MAPA), and Indigenous Rights.

READ Mitzi’s story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/story-mitzi-jonelle-tan.pdf>

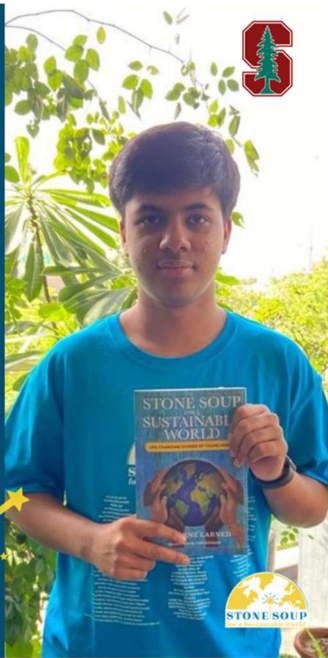
<https://yacap.org/>

@yacaphillipines @mitzijonelle

ASIAN AMERICAN &  
PACIFIC ISLANDER  
HERITAGE MONTH

“What you’re doing might not make a difference directly but the domino effect it creates will create huge change—even something as small as planting a tree in your backyard.”

**Vihaan Agarwal**  
One Step Greener  
India



Tuesday May 28: Quote: Vihaan 2<sup>nd</sup> Post

Vihaan Agarwal and his brother Nav, are revolutionizing recycling in India to protect human health and the environment.

He discovered that 20 % of the city’s air pollution was from the burning of landfills. Vihaan and Nav started One Step Greener—to collect, separate and recycle trash – and use the revenue to plant urban forests, striving for a zero-waste future.

READ Vihaan’s story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/vihaan-agarwal-fullstory.pdf>

WATCH their video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5Gx2ZeB2cw>

Press: <https://globalhealth.stanford.edu/planetary-health/a-greener-future-begins-with-small-steps.html/>

ASIAN AMERICAN &  
PACIFIC ISLANDER  
HERITAGE MONTH

“Planting native reduces the damage done by climate change. There is this relationship between the plants, the insects, and the birds, and the rest of the food chain, to help repair the damage.”

**Aadaya Joshi**  
The Right Green  
India



Tuesday May 28: Aadaya 3<sup>rd</sup> Post

At the age of 15, Aadaya Joshi transformed a garbage dump in her neighborhood into an urban garden. She then founded The Right Green to educate local youth on the importance of native plants to support biodiversity and bring nature back to our communities.

Aadaya’s organization the Right Green is a winner of the Children’s Climate Prize.

<https://www.therightgreen.org>

READ Aadaya’s story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/aadaya-joshi-fullstory.pdf>



Wednesday May 29: Niven/Tiara 1<sup>st</sup> post

Niven and Tiara Ganegama are carrying on their grandfather Dr. Ariyaratne’s message: by awakening one person, it could lead to awakening a whole family; then an entire community; and one day, even the world.

WATCH our **Tribute to Dr. Ari** with Niven and Tiara.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cagkb7uWMO0>

READ Niven & Tiara’s story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/story-niven-tiara-ganegama.pdf>



Wednesday May 29: Quote: Michelle – 2<sup>nd</sup> post

Michelle Dilhara is a television actress and an activist for social rights and the environment in Sri Lanka.

She uses both her influence and her resources to mobilize others to join the fight for social justice and environmental protection.



Michelle was named the Earth Day Ambassador for Sri Lanka in 2020.

READ Michelle’s story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*  
<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/story-michelle-dilhara.pdf>

ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

“ Together we can recognize that our cultures and identities can transform as we transform ourselves.”

**Shilpa Jain**  
YES!  
California


**Thursday May 30: Shilpa 1<sup>st</sup> Post**

Shilpa Jain is an innovative educator and champion for more inclusive education model.

She served as Executive Director for YES! whose mission is to connect, inspire, and collaborate with changemakers to build thriving, just, and regenerative paths of life for all.

READ Shilpa’s Blog

<https://lizarankow.substack.com/p/healing-conversations-welcome>

READ Shilpa’s story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.



<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/story-shilpa-jain.pdf>

YesWorld.org

ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

“ We Are the Leaders of Today!  
One of the most important lessons I've learned is that you can never give up in face of an obstacle.”

**Kevin J. Patel**  
One Up Action  
Los Angeles, California


**Thursday May 30: Quote: Kevin 2<sup>nd</sup> Post**

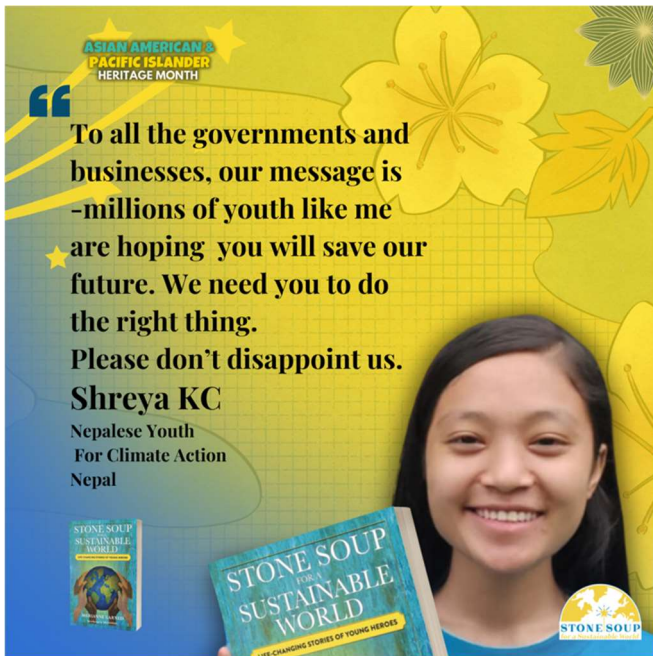
Kevin Patel is a passionate climate activist, champion for intersectional solutions and international spokesperson.

Kevin founded OneUpAction to support and empower marginalized youth with the resources they need to be changemakers. He created the first-of-its-kind Youth Climate Commission in Los Angeles County to amplify youth voices on the climate crisis.

OneUpAction has evolved into a platform for youth solutionist everywhere that are working to accelerate and implement climate solutions!

<https://www.imkevinjpatel.com/> <https://oneupaction.org>

Kevin’s story is featured in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.  
<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/story-kevin-patel.pdf>



### Friday May 31: Quote: Shreya

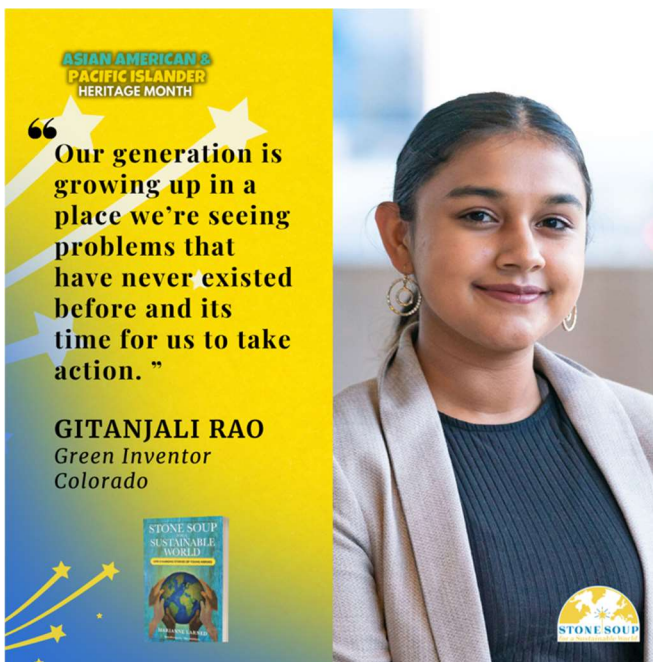
Shreya KC is a champion for climate education and international spokesperson for Nepalese Youth for Climate Action. Each year she leads the MockCOP organizing young people's voices and amplifying them to world leaders at COP and United Nations and Brussels. Shreya has made a difference through her work with the

READ Shreya's story is featured in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/shreya-kc-fullstory.pdf>

Read her blog:

<https://kcshreya.wordpress.com>



### Saturday June 1: Gitanjali Rao 1<sup>st</sup> Post

Gitanjali Rao is American scientist, inventor, and innovation activist who uses technology to tackle social challenges. She was named TIME magazine's Kid of the Year when she was 15 years old.

Gitanjali was also named America's Top Young Scientist of 2017 by the Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge, with a patent-pending device to detect lead in water faster than any other current techniques. She was winner of the Global Paradigm Science Challenge.

[gitanjalirao.net](http://gitanjalirao.net)

READ Shreya's story is featured in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World* and the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum*.

<https://sustainabilityisfun.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/gitanjali-rao-fullstory.pdf>



**Saturday June 1: Gitanjali Rao Post 2**

Young people are changing the world through innovation and creativity. What inspires them and how can we better support them on their journey?

The WIPO's Mission Imagination series features American scientist, inventor, and innovation activist, Gitanjali Rao.

In conversation with WIPO's Lorena Rivera León, Gitanjali shares how she became interested in inventing, why she open sources her inventions, and how young people can lead the way in solving some of the world's greatest problems.

- @WIPO

READ Gitanjali's story in *Stone Soup for a Sustainable*

*World* and the Stone Soup Climate Change Curriculum.

Watch Gitanjali's interview here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ak4gexflHaw>